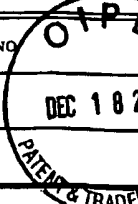


Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 30-5004DIV3	SERIAL NO. 09/912,616
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
Jm	AA	6,139,701	10-2000	Pavate et al.	—	—	
Jm	AB	6,113,761	09-2000	Kardokus et al.	—	—	
Jm	AC	US2001/0023726A1	09-2001	Koenigsmann et al.	—	—	
	AD						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
						Yes	No
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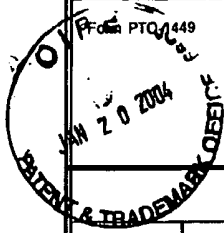
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
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EXAMINER <i>Jm Min</i>	DATE CONSIDERED <i>4-15-04</i>
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Form PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 30-5004DIV3		SERIAL NO. 09/912,516	
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				FILING DATE July 24, 2001			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initials	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	File Date If Appropriate	
jm	AA 6,454,994	09-2002	Wang	—	—		
	AB						
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	AL						
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation
							Yes No
jm	AM	59227992A	12-1984	Japan	—	—	
	AN						
	AO						
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	AQ						
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
jm	AR	Friedman, "Grain Size Refinement in a Tantalum Ingot", Metallurgical Transactions, Vol. 2 No. 1, January 1971, pages 337-341.					
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EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED					
jm		4-15-04					
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				FILING DATE July 24, 2001		GROUP 1742		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate	
Jm	AA	3,497,402	2-1970	Douglass et al.	✓	✓		
	AB							
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	AD							
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
Jm	AM	H03-197640 A	08-1991	Japan (Translation of Claims Only)	✓	✓	X	
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
	AR							
	AS							
	AT							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
Jm				4-15-04				
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								